A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE ENGLISH NATION

Thursday, December 19. 1706.

IN a late Paper I brought this Diſcourſe up to Mr. *H—s*'s two bold Aſſertions on the *Engliſh* Nation. (1.) That they will keep no Conditions.

(2.) That the two Kingdoms effectually ſubject themſelves to the new Parliament, even in all the things ſtipulated by the Treaty, or to put it in his own Words; *All the Conditions ſtipulated between the two Kingdoms to the contrary in any wiſe notwithſtanding.*

Theſe are hard things to alledge againſt a whole Nation, and can have no Ground but a radicated Prejudice, and if believ'd, will be equally fatal to both Nations; for the Parliament of *Britain* are ſo ſtrangely repreſented here, that nothing can tend more to inflame both Nations againſt the Treaty, and I think I need ſay no more, than what I have ſaid already on that Subject.

The Foundation of that Parliament is *the Treaty*; to ſay they will not be bound by it, is to ſay, they will *pull themſelves up by the Roots*: They dye, when the Union receives any mortal Wound, and this Conſtitution Doctrine overthrows all the Notions, of what the ſubſequent Parliament may do againſt *Scotland*.

They cannot infringe one Article of the Union; *they cannot put a Queſtion in the Houſe* upon any one Article.

The Gentlemen have inſinuated in *Scotland*, that they may think fit to bring *Epiſcopacy* in there, and GOD forgive them, the Wickedneſs of the Deſign, in inſinuating that among a People ſo juſtly terrified with thoſe Apprehenſions.

I take upon me to affirm, they cannot put that Queſtion in the Houſe; if any Man ſhould move it, they cannot enter on the Debate; they ſhake their own Foundation in the very thought, every Motion is an Earthquake under the Pillars of the Houſe, and the Moment they ſhould do it, they would, like *Sampſon*, pull it down upon their own Heads.

The *Parliament of Britain* cannot enter into an Enquiry, whether they are a Parliament or no; for their being a Parliament only gives them Power to be there. *Now*, how will they come to be a Parliament—— And enquiring into this, will bring me to another Abſurdity of Mr. *H——s*, (*Viz.*) That this Union is an entire diſſolving the Conſtitution of *Scotland*, and ſurrendring it bound Hand and Foot into *the abſolute Diſpoſe* of the *Engliſh*. This is ſuch a Contradiction, and ſo plainly clear'd by the Treaty, that no Man can think ſo roughly, but he that on Purpoſe ſhuts his Eyes againſt his Reaſon. I'll ſtate it by Way of Queſtion and Anſwer; the Catechiſm is ſhort, let no Man be loth to learn it.

Q. What is it conſtitutes the Parliament of Britain?

A. The Union. Let any Man give another Anſwer to it, if he can.

Q. How is it conſtituted?

A. By Treaty, between two Nations by their Heads and Repreſentatives, (*viz.*) The QUEEN and Parliament of each Kingdom.

Q. How do they bring it to paſs?

A. By mutually diſſolving their reſpective Conſtitutions, and forming one general Conſtitution upon a Treaty of Equalities and Equivalents; the Stipulations of which Treaty are agreed to be the conſtituent Part of the ſubſequent Body.

Q. Upon what Right do the preſent reſpective Parliaments depend?

A. The natural Right of the Freeholders of both Kingdoms, which intitles them by the Poſſeſſion of their Lands to have the free Exerciſe, and Power of making the Laws, by which they are to be govern'd.

Q. Does not this new Conſtitution deſtroy that Right?

A. Not at all, but reſerving that Right, which indeed it cannot deſtroy, agrees to limit the Exerciſe of it by ſuch and ſuch Forms, and on ſuch and ſuch Conditions; which Conditions are the Limitations of the Power of the new Parliament, as being the Act and Deed of the old Parliaments, whoſe Conſtitution was founded on original Right.

I think, this Connection is plain, and very juſt; and as it will admit no Objection, ſo it however brings me to the next thing of Courſe, which the other Gentlemen are driven to by the Neceſſity of the Argument.

And that is, that the Parliament of *Scotland*, and by Conſequence that of *England* too, have not a Power to go into this Union—And Mr. *H—s* ſays, *p.* 62. "That "'tis not in the Power of the *Scots* Parliament to conclude ſuch an Union, without a manifeſt Violation of Truſt, and "without doing a manifeſt Act of Injuſtice, "Oppreſſion and Uſurpation, againſt the "Fundamental Rights and Liberties of this "free Nation.

This is pleading to the Juriſdictions of a Court, which in all Ages, all Courts of Juſtice, tho' inferiour far to Parliaments, do not allow: And the Parliament or Government of *Scotland* needs not at all, that I ſhould defend or explain what they have, or have not Power to do.

But I ſhall ſpeak two things here—— *Firſt*, how abſurdly do theſe Men argue? They will not allow, the Parliament of *Scotland* can break into the Conſtitution, or meddle with the Fundamentals; and yet they will have it be, that the Parliament of *Britain* ſhall have Power to undo its own Foundation, and break the Articles of Union, by which it is to have its Being. This is not fair Dealing at all.

But a little Help will reconcile all this: It is moſt true, and I grant it readily, that the Government of no Nation can take away the original Right of the People; and I am perſwaded, the Parliament of *Scotland* will not take it ill, if I ſay, they cannot make a Law, that the Freeholders of *Scotland* ſhall nor have a Right to be govern'd by their own Laws, that is a Voice in the making of them, by Repreſentatives, and

enjoy

enjoy the Liberty of their Persons, Property of their Lands, &c.

But it shall therefore follow, they shall not have Power to determine the Circumstances of these things, which are the Consequences of a Representative, as how many they shall be represented by, who have a Right to be represented, and who not, and the like?

To bring this Home; 'tis not in the Power of Parliament to dispossess any Freeholder without Conviction of a Crime committed, of his Right of being represented; and yet 'tis in the Power of Parliament to dispossess all the Burroughs, Towns, Cities and Corporations in *Britain*, of their Right of being represented at all.

The Reason is plain, the Right of a Freeholder is an Original, 'tis claim'd by his Possession, which is to be trac'd back to God Almighty's first Donation, when he gave Man Possession of the Earth to him and his Heirs, and bid him possess and subdue it, *Gen.* 1. that is, govern it; from whence 'tis easie to deduce the Right of all Government in the World, to depend upon the legal Possession of the Solid, *Anglice*, the Freehold. If any single Man was able to purchase, and had purchased all the Land in *England*, he would be King by Divine Right, he would be himself the whole Parliament by natural Consequence, and the whole Power of Legislature would be in himself; of which I shall say more in the next.

MISCELLANEA.

I Confess, the Subject of this *Miscellanea* is most melancholly, being the Tragedy of several Ages express'd in Miniature, and I hope it will be but in a Miniature; 'tis the Portraict of a deluded Parcel of Miserables, led by their Enemies into Jealousies and Suspicions of their Friends, and going to fight with those that have deliver'd them from one Tyranny, and are now about to deliver them from another.

These are the poor unhappy People of *Glasgow*, *Lanerk*, *Dumfreis*, and the *West*; of which to confirm my Assertion, this is a most remarkable Instance. The *Glasgow* Men to the Number of ——— Their Number is variously reported, and I do not take upon me to ascertain it; but the highest Account yet receiv'd is under 100, and 200 to follow at their March to meet their Friends of the *West*, were led by three Men, the highest Rank of whom was a Serjeant in my Lord *Orkney*'s Regiment, and two of the three profes'd *Jacobites* ——— Publickly so, now so, and always so ———

Was ever such prepostrous Wretches in the World? Can it be, that Men should be under such Possessions and Invasions of their Senses ——— What shall we say to such a Case ——— The Disaster is, the poor ignorant prejudiced People may be brought into the Snare, dash their Heads against the Rock, stand in the Light of their own Happiness, and pay with their Lives for the Folly and Rashness of others ——— I will not determine, where the Blood shall lye; nor am I in the least apprehensive of the Consequence to any but themselves—But 'tis very unhappy, that a few Instruments of *Satan* should plunge a whole Body of poor innocent People, too apt to be deluded into Mischiefs, that must end in their Destruction.

In the collecting these Rabbles, two or three Attempts have been made to joyn the *Northern* Mobs with them, and I have had the Satisfaction to speak with one, who upon that very Attempt had his Eyes open to the Designs of the Proposers, Nay, says the half-convinc'd honest Man, *hold there too*; I am against the Union to the last Drop, but those People can never be against it from our Reasons, I shall never let in the *Pope* to shut out the *English*.

This Man was just come to the Exercise of his Reason, and I wish, all the poor People, that are just running headlong into

to

to this same Snare, would give themselves leave, but to think just so far as that; the Consequence of which in a few Revolutions of Thought would be, as it is in him, to show them, that the Union is not such a frightful thing as they imagine; for now the honest Man begins to enquire farther into it, he finds all things are not so bad as they expected, and he begins to change his Mind, and so they will all.

I thought here to have printed the Protestation of the *Western* People, when they burn'd the Articles of Union at *Dumfreis*; but it is really so full of foolish Vaunts, meer Ostentation, and other Effects of strong Delusions, that I think, it can do no Service, and may do harm; unless I undertook to answer it all at length, which really is not worth while.

In the next I shall say something to the Matter of Fact, and perhaps show you as much as is needful to tell us, the poor People are at present not under the right Exercise of their Understanding, and merit the Pity both of their Friends and Enemies.

ADVERTISEMENTS.
These are to give Notice.

THat *MARY KIRLEUS*, the Widow of *JOHN KIRLEUS*, Son of Dr. *THO. KIRLEUS*, a Sworn-Physician, in ordinary to King *Charles* II. Sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 50 Years to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leprosies, Running of the Reins, and the most inveterate VENEREAL Disease, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or destructive Mercurial Preparations: These incomparable Medicines need no Words to express their Vertues, the many miserable Ones that have been happily cured, after given over by others, sufficiently recommend them as the most Sovereign Remedy in the World against all such Malignities: She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compassion to the distressed, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3 *s.* the Quart, the Pill 1 *s.* the Box with Directions, and Advice *Gratis*.

☞ *She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand Court, over against great Turnstile in Holborn.*

THE *Famous Chymical Secret for the Tooth-ach*; a Drop or two of which infallibly and instantly takes away the sharpest Pain, tho' so violent and raging as almost to cause Distraction: In less than a Minute it gives perfect Ease to Admiration, and not only takes the Pain quite away, (whether the Teeth be sound or rotten) but also certainly prevents its returning again. Is sold only at Mr. *Bell*'s a Bookseller, at the *Cross-Keys* and *Bible* in *Cornhill* near *Stocks-market*, at 2 *s.* a Bottle, which contains enough to cure 20 People, with Directions. *Beware of Counterfeits under other Names.*

BArtlet's Invention for the Cure of Ruptures, from the Birth to 60 or 80 Years, the first that found out the true Cause and Cure. With a full and clear Discovery, of the Unaccountable Blunders or Frauds, of both Learned and Vulgar to this Day, especially such as pretend to Cure without a nice Spring Truss to keep in the Guts. At the Golden Ball, by the Tavern in Prescot-street in Good man's Fields. From 8 till 6 at Night, except on the real Christian Sabbath, call'd *Saturday*. I seldom Visit till Seven at Night, (unless the Patient be in Misery or Danger) nor then without a Fee, unless poor.

THE *Royal Chymical Cosmetick*, experienced for 7 Years past, by above a 1000 several Persons, effectually to cure the most inveterate *Scabs*, *Itch*, *Tetters*, *Ring worms*, *white scaly Breakings out*, often taken for the *Leprosy*, *Salt-Humours*, &c. In any Part of the *Body*, and that in a few days, when the *Deformity* has been some Years. It infallibly frees the *Face*, &c. of *Worms* in the *Skin*, *Pimples*, *Pustules*, *Heat*, *Redness*, *Yellowness*, *Sunburnings*, and such like *Defilements*, rendring the Skin *white*, *smooth* and *soft*: Being the most certain and safe Restorer, Preserver and Improver of a good Complexion, or natural Beauty, yet known. 'Tis a neat clean Medicine, and of a grateful Scent, fit to be used by the most delicate of the Fair Sex, or to young Children. Price 5 *s.* or 2 *s.* and 6 *d.* the Bottle with Directions. To be had at Mr. *Roper*'s, Bookseller in *Fleetstreet*, and at the *Golden Ball* in *Half Moon Court*, on *Ludgate-Hill*.